

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 05393 260246Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 PM-04 NSC-05
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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1855
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 5393

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PK
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR POLITICAL GUIDANCE ON TREATING SCIENCE AND
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

REF: (A) STATE 102155 (NOTAL) (B) STATE 116379,

1. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING THE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON HOW
WE SHOULD TREAT OUR NUMEROUS, SMALL RUPEE-FUNDER SCIENCE AND
AGRICULTURE RESEARCH PROJECTS IN THE LIGHT OF THE PRESENT STATE
OF PAK-US RELATIONS.

2. THESE PROJECTS ARE TYPICALLY SMALL IN DOLLAR EQUIVALENT TERMS,
SAY 140,000 DOLLARS TO BE SPENT OVER FOUR YEARS BY SOME PAKISTANI
RESEARCH INSTITUTION OR UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT. IN THE SCIENCE
AREA, THERE ARE AT PRESENT 28 ON-GOING PROJECTS WITH ANOTHER 18
IN VARIOUS STAGES OF CONSIDERATION BY USG OR GOP AGENCIES. AS
REGARDS, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROJECTS, WHICH ARE ADMINISTERED
BY THE USDA'S REGIONAL RESEARCH OFFICE IN EMBASSY NEW DELHI,
THERE ARE PRESENTLY 112 ON-GOING ONES WITH SEVERAL MORE IN
VARIOUS STAGES OF APPROVAL.

3. SUBJECT TO DEPARTMENT CONCURRENCE, WE PALN TO CONTINUE TO
PROCESS THESE PROJECTS ON ESSENTIALLY A BUSINESS-AS-USUAL
BASIS EXCEPT THAT WE WILL NOT BE PUSHING THE GOP BUREAUCRACY FOR
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THEIR CLEARANCES. THESE PROJECTS, WHICH COULD BE SAID TO BE IN A
DE MINIMIS CATEGORY, WIN A LOT OF FRIENDS FOR US IN PAKISTAN
UNIVERSITY, RESEARCH AND AGRICUCIRCLE, AND WE CONSIDER IT IN
OUR INTEREST TO CONTINUE THEM. SHOULD OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS
WORSEN, WE WOULD OF COURSE WANT TO REVIEW THIS POLICY IN THE
LIGHT OF OTHER ACTIONS WE MIGHT BE TAKING.

4. WE ARE HOLDING REF B UNTIL WE RECEIVE GUIDANCE. PLEASE ADVISE.
CONSTABLE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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